Rural Electrification Programme

†1106. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages in the country deprived of the facility of electricity as on date;

(b) the number of villages targeted to be electrified under Rajiv Gandhi Rural Electrification Plan and the quantum of target achieved so far in this regard;

(c) the number of villages targeted to be electrified during the years 2005-06 and 2006-07 by Government;

(d) the quantum of electricity likely to be reviewed for all the villages electrified under Rajiv Gandhi Rural Electrification Plan; and

(e) the arrangements made by Government to provide electricity to the electrified villages?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) As per the report of Rural Electrification Corporation Ltd., 119849 villages in the country are deprived of the facility of electricity as on date.

(b) All the unelectrified villages in the country except those which are being taken up by Ministry of Non-conventional Energy Sources are covered under Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana(RGGVY). Under RGGVY,during the current fiscal year, 3685 villages have been reported electrified up to 25.02.2006.

(c) Under the scheme, it is proposed to electrify 50,000 villages during Tenth FiveYear Plan as per the break-up given as under:-

Sl.No.	Year	No. of villages proposed for electrification
1.	2005-06	10,000
2.	2006-07	40,000
	TOTAL:	50,000

(d) Assuming electricity requirement of 40 watt per Below Poverty Line(BPL) rural household and 200 watt on an average requirement per Above Poverty Line (APL) rural household, total estimated requirement

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

is 12,000 MW for 2.3 crore BPL households and 5.5 crore APL households which are yet to be electrified.

(e) Electricity is a concurrent subject. Supply and distribution of electricity in a state isthe responsibility of the state government/state power utility concerned which decides the priorities of power supply to various categories of consumers/areas in the state. Government of India only supplements the efforts of the state governments by setting up of power plants through central public sector undertakings in central sector. However, steps are being taken up by Central Government to improve generation and availability of power in the country viz. capacity addition of 41,110 MW has been targeted for 10th Five Year Plan and around 60,000 MW for 11th Plan, increasing PLF of thermal units, creation of National Grid for optmum utilization of generation capacity, Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme for reduction of transmission and commercial losses, adopting energy efficiency and conservation measures, renovation and modernization of old and inefficient generating units.

Monsoon forecasting agencies

1107. SHRI R.K. ANAND: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Meterological Department and the CSIR for Mathematical modelling and computer simulation have given two different monsoon forecasts;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the gadgets used for predicting monsoon in India are primitive and require change and the reasons for which these two agencies don't share their expertise?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) Yes, Sir. The mandate for issuing long range monsoon forecast for the country rests with India Meteorological Department (IMD). IMD uses a statistical model for monsoon forecast. Centre for Mathematical Modelling and Computer Simulation (C-MMACS) is conducting studies on monsoon forecast and uses a dynamical model on experimental basis. Studies have shown that dynamical models have not evolved to a stage where they can simulate the year to year monsoon rainfall realistically.